



OHIO - SERBIA

2006-2013



President: Tomislav Nikolic
 Prime Min.: Ivica Dacic
 MoD: Aleksandar Vucic
 Amb. to US: Vladimir Petrović
 US Amb: Michael D. Kirby
 TAG: MG Deborah Ashenhurst

NATO member: No

EU member: No

ISAF Pax: 582 (1/1/13)

2012 SPP Engagements: 16

Population: 7.3M (2012 est.)
 Area: slightly smaller than S. Carolina
 Military Expend.: 2.2% GDP (2010 est.)



Photo by U.S. Air Force

Overview

The Ohio and Serbia partnership was formally established in September 2006 with the signing of the Status Forces Agreement between the US and Serbia.

The National Guard State Partnership Program (SPP) links U.S. states with a partner country for the purpose of improving bilateral relations with the United States. The program's goals reflect an evolving international affairs mission for the National Guard of the United States, to promote regional stability and civil-military relationships in support of U.S. policy objectives.

The state partners actively participate in a host of security cooperation activities ranging from bilateral familiarization and training-like events, to exercises, fellowship-style internships and civic leader visits. All activities are coordinated through the Theater Combatant Commanders, the US Ambassadors' country teams and other agencies as appropriate, to ensure that National Guard support is tailored to meet both U.S. and country objectives.

The Ohio National Guard has two state partners. Since 1993, the Ohio National Guard has partnered with Hungary, and in September of 2006, the Ohio National Guard entered into a new partnership with the Republic of Serbia. Follow the links below for information, photos and videos of activities between the Ohio National Guard and its partner countries.

Partnership History

Brief History:

- State Partnership was established in 2006
- New Prime Minister- Ivica Dacic
- New Defense Minister- Aleksandar Vucic
- Presidential run-offs were held and Tomislav Nikolic won in a surprising victory.
- New MOD Secretaries of Defense and Assistant Ministers appointed
- Serbia will not participate in M2M events where Kosovo is recognized
- Serbia's 2012 economic decline was the steepest in region; World Bank estimates 2% growth for 2013

Partnership Focus

Military to Military (M2M):

- Continue PKO Base Development and Assistance (South Base)
- Unit level exchanges
- Increased Trilateral Events with Hungary (Exercises)

Future Years Proposed Events:

- Over 20 events scheduled to execute FY13 between Ohio and Serbia
- PKO Base Development and Assistance (South Base)
- Consequence Management
- NCO development ISO of upcoming SAF PKO
- Cyber Defense – Staff Assistance Visit (SAV)
- Helicopter Unit Operations
- Introduction to US ROTC
- Women in professional Armed Forces
- Chaplaincy Development



Photo by Capt. Elizabeth Culbertson



"Ultimately, the State Partnership Program is about personal relationships. It is a partnership that involves an ongoing dialog about the day-to-day challenges we both face and our willingness to think outside the box in finding solutions." - MG Greg Wayt, former Adjutant General, Ohio National Guard

